

SPORTS



WIN FOR SOVIET BIATHLETES

The USSR won the 4x7.5 km relay on the last day of the world biathlon championships at Ruhpolding, West Germany. The winners were Olympic champions Yuri Kashkarov, who won there the 20 km race, Alimantas Salas, Sergei Bulygin and debutant Andrei Zenkov. They clocked 1 hr 33 min 12.7 sec. The second-placed GDR clocked 1.34.57.5 and third-placed West Germany 1.35.44.9.

The "gold" quartet of Soviet biathletes.

Photo AP-TASS

WHEN 160 DAYS HAVE PASSED...

The chess world title match between Anatoly Karpov and Garry Kasparov, which lasted 160 days, has been terminated by decision of FIDE President Florencio Campomanes. He declared his decision at a press conference on February 15 in the conference hall of the Moscow Sport hotel.

He also said that a new match between them will start on September 1 this year to produce 1985-1986 world champion. The new match regulation will be worked out by a FIDE congress to be held in August in the Austrian town of Graz.

Photo AP-TASS

USSR takes all

Youthful Soviet badminton players took all the titles and most of other awards at the Druzhba tournament of socialist countries ended in Moscow.

In the singles, the country's third best player Andrey Antropov from Omsk beat David Kaviladze from Tbilisi 2-0. The opponents then came together to fight in the doubles, with the same score. Vyacheslav Volozhov from Omsk and Andrey Davydov from the town of Zhukovsky outside Moscow,

Oleg Bozhayev from Moscow failed to defend his world speedskating title but he struggled desperately. The bronze medallist of the 1984 Olympics won the gold in the 1,500 m and the silver in the 500 m at Innsbruck, Norway. Three weeks earlier he placed third in the European championship in Sweden, and now he came second overall.

His contemporary, 23-year-old Hein Vergeer of Holland, was again the top all-round, while 28-year-old Hilbert van der Dijck got a step down by winning the bronze.

Oleg Bozhayev in action.

Photo AP-TASS

Victory in the homeland of bobsleigh

The Sarajevo Olympics and last year's European championships' bronze medal of Zineth Etmanis of Riga and Vladimir Aleksandrov of Krasnoyarsk have won the gold medals of the European bobsleigh championship held in the Swiss town of Sankt Moritz. Here, in the homeland of bobsleigh, the Soviet athletes

were best finishers in the first two starts and runners-up in the subsequent two. However, the total time shown by Etmanis and Aleksandrov turned out to be victorious — 4 min 30.53 sec.

Second-placed are winners of the 1984 Olympics Wolfgang Hoppe and Dietmar Schaeferhamer of the GDR who lagged behind the leaders by 0.13 sec. In third place are Hans Hiltnerbrand and Meinrad Mueller of Switzerland, 4 min 31.46 sec.

The Moscow Physical Training Institute beat Borispol 2-1 in the finals of a national tournament of the country's six field-hockey teams.

Moscow Region Spartak played third, beating Moscow Knut-Sovietov 4-0.

Even though this winter tournament did not open any "stars," state coach of the USSR Sports Committee Vadim Peterchuk told our correspondent showed the grown mastery of the young. This tournament will serve as a good preparation for the national election on March 27-April 8, which on an intercontinental scale, an Argentine and vice versa, agreed in the 1988 world championship to be held in the Canadian town of Vancouver.

First: we do not aim at achieving one-sided advantages a-s-a-v-a-s the United States and other NATO countries, or to obtain military superiority over them. We do not need this, since we do not intend to threaten them or impose our will upon them, we want to live in peace with them and to maintain normal, good relations.

Second: we want an end to, not prolongation of the arms race. That is exactly why the USSR poses the question of initial steps such as a freeze of nuclear arsenals of the sides, an end to further deployment of

AGREEMENT IS POSSIBLE

The differences of the sides in their views on questions to be discussed are great today. This is obvious to all. There is no shortage of gloomy forecasts which doom the talks to failure in advance. But we do not share them.

Agreement is absolutely necessary and fully possible. It is necessary because otherwise the world will roll over faster along the inclined plane of the arms race.

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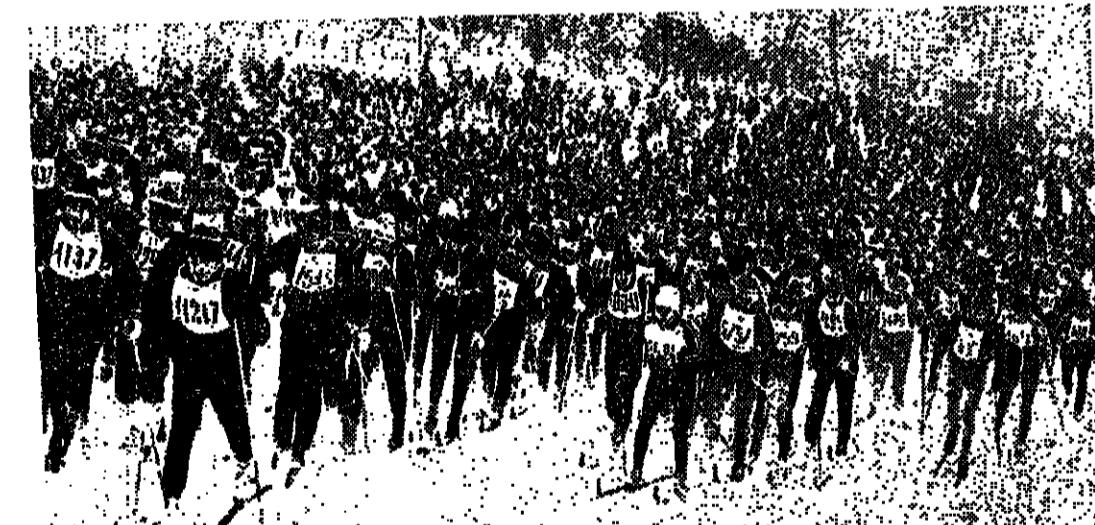
HOLIDAY ON SKI TRACK

A festive atmosphere reigned this past Sunday at the Planeta sports centre outside Moscow, where the fourth "Russia Ski Track" mass race came to a finish. This popular event marked the 40th anniversary of the Victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War. It opened the "Week of the Skier" in Russia, and despite a frosty and windy weather, drew over 12,000 Muscovites and Moscow Region residents. Still the bad weather affected the event and the organizers had to drop the 60 km marathon.

The event was excellently organized. The track boasted five feeding centres and technical and medical aid.

Muscovites Yelena Alenasyeva and Vladimir Venkov won the 30 km races.

Photo by Sergei Pronikov



FOOTBALL NEWS

A USSR team now visiting Italy beat amateur club Città di Pisa 4-0 in a town of the same name near Pisa. One goal each was scored by Stukalov and Zvezdochkin while Aleinikov netted two.

Moscow Dynamo, which is now touring Britain, lost its first friendly to Crystal Palace Rangers.

(Continued on page 2)

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"MN Information" comes out on Tuesdays and Saturdays and offers in brief the latest information on events in the USSR and in the world, reported by TASS and foreign news agencies.

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MN INFORMATION

Soviet Foreign Minister, Andrei Gromyko, recently met with US public figures, R. McNamara and R. Schmidt and N. Gaynor, at the Kremlin. The three are to represent the USSR as members of a delegation of the American Committee on East-West Accord. During the talk Andrei Gromyko made a principled assessment of the current state of relations between the USSR and the USA. The main cause of tension in these relations is Washington's continuing attempt to gain a military advantage. He stressed in this respect that the USSR was totally opposed to this policy and would not allow any encroachment on its security.

As repeatedly noted by Konstantin Chernenko, he added, the USSR is prepared to develop stable relations with the United States and advance the interests of both nations, as well as those of other peoples. It is essential for both countries to embark on practical policies aimed at preserving and strengthening world peace. Gromyko emphasized,

that the strategic parity and

balance of forces in Europe

(Continued on page 2)



GROMYKO MEETS U.S. PUBLIC FIGURES

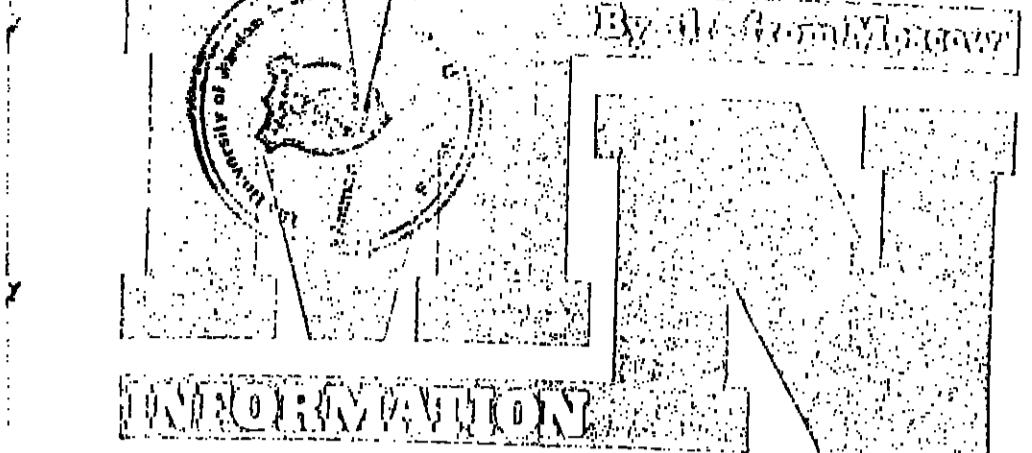
Leading British agricultural companies have mounted an exhibition, Britagropon-85, their first in this country, at the Krasnaya-Presnya exhibition complex in Moscow. Visitors to Britagropon can see the latest achievements in chemical preparations for the protection of plants, bulls, as well as agricultural and food packaging machines, etc.

British agriculturists are continuing to put down the marks of their products in the Soviet market. The main reason for this is the increasing interest of the Soviet market in British agricultural machinery and equipment.

(Continued on page 2)

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POLITBURO WEEKLY MEETING

The Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee discussed a programme for further development and technical retouching of the ferrous industry and raising the quality of metal products. A decision taken to this effect by the Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers provides for radical changes in the methods and technologies of production, speeding up of reconstruction of enterprises, and considerable renovation of basic assets in this fundamental branch of the Soviet economy.

Special attention was devoted to the solution of major social problems: improvements on the working and living conditions of metal workers, reduction in the number of arduous and labour intensive operations on the basis of comprehensive mechanization and automation, and adoption of environmental protection measures.

(Continued on page 2)

MOSCOW SIGHTS



A view of the Kremlin.

TRUTH MUST COME OUT

"Significantly, the world has been living without war all these years. This should not be forgotten."

These are the opening lines in the recent two-part "Victory" joint work of the Moscow and GDR's DEFA film studios. Directed by noted Soviet film director, Yevgeny Matveyev, the film has been shown at the press centre of the USSR Foreign Ministry for heads of delegations and members of diplomatic missions.

Sharing their impressions with our reporter were these heads of diplomatic missions:

GDR Ambassador Egon Winkel:

A hard-hitting film, things discussed at the Poltava Conference 40 years ago continue to stir mankind. It calls for reflection. Well soon mark the 40th anniversary of Victory over fascism. For our country it is a red-letter day—liberation of the German people. We are proud that the film is a joint effort of Soviet and German film makers.

Luis Felipe Vazquez, charge d'affaires of Cuba:

I'm one of the generation who only know about the war from accounts. I think the facts presented in the film give audiences the chance to learn the truth about the war, about post-war policies of the Soviet Union and Western powers. The film is timely. In fact, to preserve peace is what matters most today.

Larisa SEDOLITSKAYA

played by actors in dramatized episodes. The film presents nearly 80 historical personages. All filming was done entirely in the places where the events occurred.

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THE WORLD

Statement by World Peace Council

Genoa. The World Peace Council (WPC) together with millions of people throughout the world, welcomes the negotiations between the Soviet Union and the United States on nuclear and outer space weapons due to open in Geneva on March 12.

Participants in peace movements and public representatives in most countries, stresses a document issued by the WPC, are demanding that the Geneva negotiations lead to concrete results. They must prevent the arms race from spilling into outer space, for this would be very expensive, destabilizing, and lead not to the consolidation of defence but rather to an escalation of the threat of nuclear war.

It is necessary to stop and reverse deployment of medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe and prevent this process in other parts of the world. arsenals of strategic nuclear weapons must be reduced substantially.

The World Peace Council believes that the continuation of the arms race during the negotiations would run counter to the objectives and spirit of the letter. Therefore, it calls for immediate declaration of a moratorium on outer space weapon tests — as has already been unilaterally done by the Soviet Union—the freezing of tests, the production and the deployment of nuclear weapons; the termination of medium-range missiles deployment in Europe.

Nakasone: USA can use nuclear weapons

Tokyo. The Japanese Government will allow the United States to use nuclear weapons in case of a "threat to the future" of Japan, Japanese Prime Minister, Yasuhiro Nakasone, recently declared in parliament. He was answering questions by deputies on the possibility of American warships using nuclear weapons in the course of joint military activities with Japanese armed forces. Nakasone said that Japan will give "every possible military assistance" to warships of the American Seventh Fleet. This statement by the Japanese Premier acquires a sinister tinge in the light of US attempts to deploy first-strike nuclear weapons in the Far East. Ships of the Seventh Fleet, armed with Tomahawk cruise missiles are based in Japanese ports. This makes Japan a nuclear missile springboard for the Pentagon.



This is quite below my maximum!

Drawing by Konstantin Rybalko

AAPSO opposes 'star wars'

Cairo. The threat of a nuclear war, spread to outer space, known as "star wars" prompts all peace forces seek complete banning of nuclear weapons and inspires them to a struggle for complete and general disarmament.

This is mentioned in a statement by the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization (AAPSO). It notes that ever since the US administration developed a programme for the militarization of outer space many governmental and mass organizations came out with an initiative aimed at preventing the threat of a nuclear war. In this connection the AAPSO welcomes the initiative of the heads of state of India, Sweden, Greece, Tanzania, Mexico and Argentina, which emphasizes the right of all peoples to live in peace and contains an appeal to freeze the production of missiles.

MISSILES FOR MOLESWORTH

London. The British Ministry of Defence has begun formulating a detailed plan for the deployment of a new batch of cruise missiles at Molesworth (Cambridgeshire) military base. Conservative deputy, John Major, told parliament that the plan, specifically called for the construction of a strategic highway with a US air base at Alconbury. It is there that American transport planes will deliver a new batch of Tomahawks in 1988. They will later be shipped to Molesworth. Preliminary estimates put the cost of this project at 1,500,000 pounds sterling.

LEADERS SHOULD DISPLAY UNDERSTANDING

Recall the events of the past decade. The leaders of

Vladimir BRODETSKY

DESTRUCTIVE WAVES OF 'BUCHANAN'

New Zealand's decision not to allow into its territorial waters American, British and French ships carrying nuclear weapons or fitted with nuclear engines, is final and irrevocable, the country's Prime Minister, David Lange, declared two weeks after his government denied the US destroyer "Buchanan" entry to its ports. The storm raised by Washington in this respect was so strong that many capitals, especially Washington, expected Wellington to go back on its decision.

But this did not happen. The Labourites remained true to their election promise — to work to create a nuclear-free zone in southern Pacific, banning calls by nuclear "guests", as a first step towards this goal. This determination of the Labourites is explained by the fact that 73 per cent of the population (according to the latest opinion poll) support their decision, while two-thirds of New Zealanders live in municipalities which have already proclaimed their territories nuclear-weapons-free zones.

Washington also demonstrated its displeasure, to put it mildly, in the military po-

ington took flight of a possible "chain reaction" in the region, where, apart from New Zealand, a number of island states have already closed their ports to US nuclear navies.

(For the full text of the speech see Supplement to "Moscow News" No. 9.)

Politbureau weekly meeting

(Continued from page 1)

The Politbureau approved measures suggested by the USSR Council of Ministers to improve the production, quality and range of footwear for 1986-90 as part of a Comprehensive programme for the Development of Services and the Production of Consumer Goods.

The Politbureau also discussed a plan for a long-term construction of underground railway lines in major cities. Specific conditions of transport services to the population were examined with due account taken of the development and characteristics of the cities for which new underground Metro lines are planned and the necessary funds allocated for the purple fund.

The Politbureau also approved the results of discussions held by Nikolai Tikhonov, the Prime Minister of the Gorbachev Republic, Andrey Pashkov, who was on an official visit to the Soviet Union, between February 11 and 14. A number of our operations of this kind were also performed by this surgeon.

THE WORLD

Konstantin Chernenko: essence of our foreign policy

(Continued from page 1)

race and the threat of war will grow. Agreement is fully possible because for this there is only the need to respect the rights and legitimate security interests of both sides, and not to strive toward upsetting the existing balance of forces.

We call upon US leaders to approach the forthcoming talks seriously and honestly. We urge them to discard the senseless hopes of attaining military superiority over the Soviet Union and conducting talks with us "from the position of strength".

FORTY YEARS AFTER VICTORY

The 40th year after the Victory in World War II urges all of us to take a look once again at what we experienced during the war years, at what happened after it, and at the prospects opening up before the world today.

The countries of the coalition, which defeated fascism, belonged to different social systems. But they became allies. Their leaders were able jointly to lay down the foundations of the post-war set-up. These foundations are embodied in the documents of Tehran, Yalta and Potsdam. Their main meaning is topical today as well: to translate man's supreme aspiration — durable peace — into reality. The way to this was also indicated — to preserve the unity of goal and action which made it possible to defeat nazism and free peoples from Hitlerite captivity.

It may be argued: this happened only because there was realized Hitlerism was realized. It seems also that the leaders of the USSR and the USA, marking the 40th anniversary of the end of the most horrific and devastating of all wars, could easily reaffirm, in a form suitable to the sides, the substance and spirit of the main documents assumed by the two countries both at the end of the war and in the agreements of the 1970s. They could declare that they intend to continue acting in the spirit of these commitments in their foreign policies. This would, of course, promote the strengthening of mutual confidence and the general improvement of the situation in the world. I am sure: this joint statement will receive the support of all peace-loving states and all citi-

sates in East and West, despite the serious contradictions dividing them, were able to display the necessary resolve and understanding of the exigencies of the time. They made major strides in the direction of durable peace. The firm fibre of mutually-beneficial cooperation began to take shape, long-term principles of peaceful relations were worked out through joint efforts.

We find these principles in the document which affirmed the foundations of relations between the USSR and the USA and in the agreement between them on the prevention of nuclear war. They found reflection in the treaties between socialist countries and the FRG, which formalized the post-war realities in Europe. Finally, they received collective confirmation and development in the Final Act of the European Conference in Helsinki.

Today, history poses the question of mankind's future even more sharply. There is an even more imperative need for courage and foresightedness on the part of state leaders. The countries of the coalition, which defeated fascism, belonged to different social systems. But they became allies. Their leaders were able jointly to lay down the foundations of the post-war set-up. These foundations are embodied in the documents of Tehran, Yalta and Potsdam. Their main meaning is topical today as well: to translate man's supreme aspiration — durable peace — into reality. The way to this was also indicated — to preserve the unity of goal and action which made it possible to defeat nazism and free peoples from Hitlerite captivity.

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FACTS and EVENTS

UNESCO will fulfill its programmes

Paris. The extraordinary session of the Executive Board of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), held here, discussed the consequences of the US withdrawal from UNESCO.

Amadou Mohamadou M'Bow, Director-General of UNESCO, stressed that despite the temporary financial difficulties, the organization would take all measures to fulfill the outlined programmes. Yu. Khilchovsky, USSR permanent representative at UNESCO, pointed out that the Soviet Union was ready in the obtaining situation to discuss the allocation of voluntary additional payment to the UNESCO budget. France, Mexico and a number of other states declared their intention to make additional payments to the budget of that organization.

Under pressure from progressive public, the Supreme Court in Dusseldorf after lengthy protracted hearings has started legal proceedings against the former SS Scharführer W. Otto, who is accused of complicity in the murder of Ernst Thälmann. The leader of the Communist Party of Germany was brutally murdered in August 1944 in the Buchenwald concentration camp.

A central command post has been set up at the US Air Force base in Misawa, North Japan, to direct operations in the North-Western Pacific in conditions of so-called "total war", involving the use of nuclear, chemical and bacteriological weapons.

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A special commission has been set up at the US State Department to monitor UNESCO reforms. The State Department regards the commission as an instrument of pressure on this UN specialized organization.

OCCUPATION FOR FUTURE ROBOTS

Production of automation and robots throughout the world is growing annually by 30-40 per cent. Although robotics as a branch has existed on its own for only two decades, today very close attention is being devoted to it in many countries.

Thus, at the Institute of Fundamental Technological Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences alone, nearly twenty projects are expected to be solved by 1986. They envisage the creation of industrial robots which can perform such operations as welding, painting, transportation in difficult conditions, etc.

The robots will replace people in such occupations where speed and precision can only come from robots.

THE RADIO SPY

Colombo. The powerful radio station Voice of America, being cover for the US secret communications centre and electronic eavesdropping post of the US naval force in the Indian Ocean, published here.

The VOA will become the most efficient station overseas. Its transmitters will be installed under the ground and fitted out with the Cif aerial system, making it possible to engage in radio spying in the entire South Asian region, and the Indian Ocean. Through the satellite they will be transmitted directly to the Pentagon.

NEW USE FOR PAPYRUS

It has been noticed long ago that no other plants can grow near the groves of papyrus. Kenyan scientists from the University of Nairobi decided to make use of this property of papyrus.

They are looking for safe methods to control the "green plague" — the lakes and rivers being overrun with undesirable species of weeds.

In the experiments a papyrus

must be destroyed. This is how Cato the Elder concluded every speech in the Senate of Rome. In 146 B.C. 50,000 Roman legions destroyed the capital of the powerful state, and the ruins were sprinkled with salt as a token that nothing should revive. In that place, this is how the Punic Wars between Ancient Rome and Carthage ended, in which the outstanding military leader, Hannibal, declared, "sufficient experience of prolonged fight in a balloon has already been accumulated and, therefore, it is high-time to do what even Jules Verne could not imagine: a non-stop flight round the world".

Many sophisticated inventions

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

VILE CAMPAIGN ON EVE OF DIALOGUE

Analysing the political atmosphere which has emerged on the eve of the Soviet-American talks on outer space and nuclear weapons, Vitaly Koronov writes in *PRAVDA*:

"With the negotiations still ahead, Washington has launched a powerful political propaganda machine charged with the task of essentially discrediting the 'Geneva hypothesis', and to make people share the idea of a possible failure of the talks.

It is hardly accidental that on the eve of the negotiations that the United States is attempting to instill into people the idea that the Soviet Union is not to be trusted". This was exactly the aim of the action fabricated in the White House to the effect that the USSR was violating its commitments in arms control.

The American fabrication pursues two aims. In the first place it was designed to distract attention from the continuing escalation of US militaristic programme as has been brought about by a new huge military budget being pushed through the American Congress. In the second place, Uncle Sam is violating its commitments under previously agreed to engage in constructive talks with it at Geneva.

SERIOUS DIFFERENCES

Talks in Washington between King Fahd ibn Abdul Aziz on the one hand, and Rabin, George Shultz and Caspar Weinberger (US Secretary of Defense) on the other hand, showed serious differences regarding approaches to settlement of the Middle East problem, writes G. Musatov in *SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA*. The King sought from the US administration a "qualitatively new approach", a revision of the current US policy, insisted that a genuinely fair settlement was impossible without meeting fully the legitimate interests of the Arab people of Palestine. As for Washington, it continued to persistently cling to the principle of separate deals, proving that the notorious Camp David accords by the Arab states, must underline the normalization of the situation. At the talks the USA first of all took into consideration the interests of its "strategic ally", Israel, for whom countries to conclude a new separate deal.

TOMAHAWKS ARE STRATEGIC WEAPONS

The first batch of American nuclear Tomahawks has already been deployed in Italy and targeted it, writes *IZVESTIA*'s Rome correspondent, N. Rakitin. It is no secret whom they are aimed at. From time to time Italian newspapers and magazines publish maps with a thick semicircle tracing the outlines of the western and southern areas of the European part of the USSR. This is the operation range of the nuclear missiles, while its centre is the Sicilian town of Comiso, near which on the western coast of Sicily a Tomahawk base has been built. To the USSR these missiles will sharply complicate the situation in Europe. This is why the Soviet Union stands for a Europe free of both medium-range and tactical nuclear weapons. The Italian public supports the peaceful Soviet initiatives, the newspaper points out.

WHO DID THEY SYMPATHIZE WITH?

A Peking newspaper, "Renmin Ribao", has reported a visit by a delegation of the All-China Federation of Women to Afghan counter-revolutionary camps near the Pakistani city of Peshawar. The Chinese newspaper indicated that during its tour the delegation "expressed sympathies with and support for the just struggle of the Afghan people". Commenting on this statement, TASS political observer, M. Yakovlev, poses a number of questions:

Who are the people concerned? he asks. The Afghan people who in the April 1978 Revolution toppled the hated despotic regime? The Afghan workers, peasants and intellectuals who have firmly embarked on the road towards a new society free from exploitation of man by man? If the solidarity was expressed with these people then there was no need to go to Pakistan. Consequently the "sympathy and support" were extended to feudal and their henchmen, to the tribal chiefs, the entrepreneur bourgeoisie and other elements whom the April Revolution had denied privileged positions and who, having found shelter and refuge in Pakistan, hate the present social system in Afghanistan. The support was expressed for the units of armed gangsters operating from their bases in Pakistan, Iran and China. To them went the sympathies. They are armed with American and Chinese weapons, perpetrate crimes and acts of vandalism against the Afghan people who are tirelessly reconstructing their country.

According to preliminary calculations the flight will take about two weeks.

Simple solution

Jules Verne couldn't imagine this

Many sophisticated inventions have been made because of the need to ward off increased carelessness, but none of them compare with a most unexpected solution found by a mechanician — a garage owner in Paris. He has designed a system which dispenses with the use of straps, locks or alarm bells. He offers his clients a "steering wheel" which can be detached and placed in an attack case or even a piano box. It is high-time to do what even Jules Verne could not imagine: a non-stop flight round the world. It is simple, reliable and in good taste.

PEOPLE

MURRAY HAYDEN

Murray Hayden, 58-year-old American, became the third person in the world with the transplanted artificial heart. The operation was performed by surgeon, William Davies, in the clinic of Louisville, Kentucky, between February 11 and 14. A number of our operations of this kind were also performed by this surgeon.

All this indicates that Wash-

ington finds it increasingly hard to turn its allies into hostages of Pentagon's aggressive policies.

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YOUNG TALENTS OF VESNYANKA

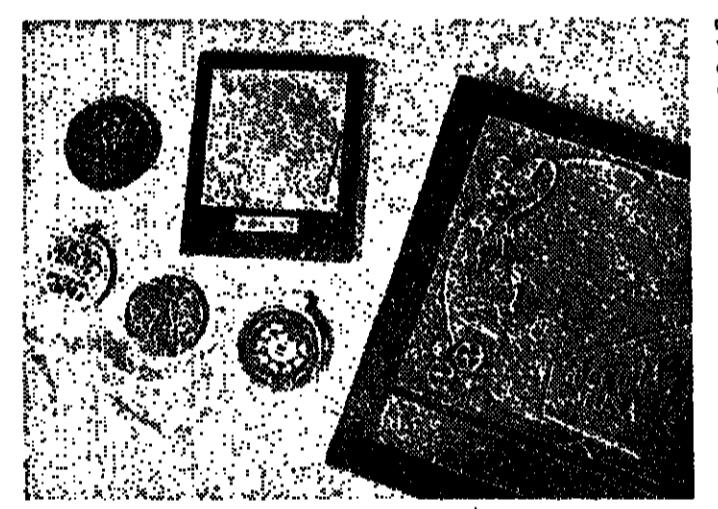
An unusual studio of animation cartoons, called Vesnyanka, where cameramen, sound technicians, artists and scenery painters are children of between six and twelve have been functioning for ten years in Dnepropetrovsk, the Ukraine.

"All children are gifted." These words were adopted as a motto for studio by its founders, M. Mais and K. Emorelli, thus making it free for any interested child to join. The only thing that is obligatory for its members is diligence and respect for common work. The experimental at three-year programme of the studio members presupposes the study of the history of cinema, directing, photography, fundamentals of dramatic art, drawing, plasticity and rhythm.

A doll, familiar to any child in the cradle, helped to turn an abstract work into a favourite game. The children did modelling, applique work, made collages from chance materials and autumn leaves, invented fairy tales. They learned to think independently and work collectively. Thus, the first creative groups consisting of 6-8 children appeared at the Vesnyanka. They embraced children with the same interests irrespective of age.

Each group independently worked out scripts. The chil-

● An instant and the dolls will come to life.
● The awards of the Vesnyanka studio.



dren began to reveal their individual capabilities: some liked directing, others saw to the sound track.

In ten years Vesnyanka has developed into a solid, creative studio. Its films "May There Always Be Sunshine", "If He and Ans Were Pots and Pans", "Cowboy and his Favourite Horse" were awarded many prizes at republican and all-Union competitions. Animated cartoons "Trumpeter" and "Piramani" won the Grand-Prix in Paris, while the film "Matilda, Cactus and Soap-Bubbles" was awarded gold medal at the tenth Museum Festival in Paris.

FROM the SOVIET PRESS

BREAKTHROUGH IN SOCIAL POLICY

All efforts to speed up economic development are ultimately aimed at earmarking more funds for social needs and raising the population's standard of living as quickly as possible. Actually, this is the aim of the country's economic development plans. To back up this thesis, the magazine *POLITICHESKOYE SAMOGRADZOVANIYE* adduces the following facts and figures: as compared with 1940, the real incomes of factory and office workers (in terms of one worker) increased by 180 per cent in 1970 and those of collective farmers—by 370 per cent. Allowances and benefits paid from the social consumption funds increased 11-fold per head of population—from 24 to 263 rubles. The commissioning of total (useful) floor space increased more than four times. The percentage of people with higher or secondary (complete and incomplete) education increased from 12.3 in 1930 to 65.3 in 1970. Moreover, the number of specialists with a higher education per 1,000 of population increased five-fold.

Today, too, the problems of social policy are in the focus of the state's attention. In 1985, the population's real incomes will grow by 1.3 per cent, which is considerably higher than the average during the preceding four years. The centralized incomes of teachers' salaries and wages of several categories of farm workers will continue to increase the benefits for veterans of the Great Patriotic War and to raise the minimum old-age pensions of collective farmers, as well as pensions for factory and office workers who retired more than 10 years ago.

Devoted attention to problems of social policy in the countryside has resulted in visible breakthroughs so far as bridging the gap between the living standards of the rural and urban populations are concerned. During the four years of the five-year developmental plan more than ten million people improved their living conditions in the countryside. The real incomes of collective farmers and state farm workers continued to rise annually. An important social result of all these favourable changes is the fact that the drift of the rural population to cities has begun to decline in recent years.

NEW APPROACH TO HEALTH CARE

A comprehensive programme for 1985-1990 meant to improve disease prevention and the health of the population was embarked upon this January, writes First Deputy Minister of Public Health of the USSR, Prof. Oleg Shchepin in *TRUD*. The programme's goal is to build up the health of Soviet people and extend their active life. It contains over 2,000 different practical measures relating to all aspects of health care.

The idea of disease prevention has been around for quite a long time but today it has gained scope and found practical implementation. This is in fact a fundamentally new stage in health care which requires a different economic approach.

The task is to create conditions for man—right from birth till the end of his life—which can prevent untimely biological wear and tear, chronic diseases and early death.

The programme, says Oleg Shchepin, is made up of targets to be reached in the context of the whole nation and in the context of individual republics, regions, and institutions. Conditions of work are to be improved for 25 to 30 million workers. As a result of the implementation of the programme by individual ministries and departments there will be a drop of 8 to 20 per cent, depending on specifics of the industries in the incidence of diseases that cause temporary loss of ability to work.

The programme also includes prevention measures for cardiovascular, oncological, neurotic and mental, endocrine, pulmonary and other diseases. It is expected, in particular, that fighting arterial hypertension alone could result in the coming decade in a 15 to 20 per cent drop in deaths caused by cardiovascular diseases among population aged 35 to 74 years and in cutting down by 10-15 per cent of the general death rate in the same age group and in extending life expectancy from 3 to 5 years.

SOLAR ENERGY — POWER SOURCE FOR TOMORROW

In the Kyzylkum Desert, a 300 MW solar power station is now being built not far from the Tyumenyayum on the Amudarya. Central Asian scientists have carried out all the feasibility studies of the project, writes *IZVESTIA*.

Round the Soviet Union

● PART OF KLIMOVSKY DISTRICT HAS RECENTLY BEEN DECLARED A NATURE PRESERVE. It is known as a large-scale nesting ground for bustards entered in the Red Data Book of the USSR. The preserve, extending over 20 thousand hectares, bans hunting, cattle grazing, transport, etc., to facilitate higher reproduction rates for bustards. Over nesting periods all economic activity around is limited.

● A CENSUS OF BEAVERS HAS BEEN COMPLETED IN EUROPEAN USSR. The number of this valuable fur animal stands at 200 thousand. In the 1920s there were only 300 such animals there, and the beaver was regarded as an endangered species. The nationwide state programme for beaver protection and acclimatization saved the animal from extinction.

INCUBATOR ON THERMAL SPRINGS

Ideal conditions for the maturing of fish and the growth of salmon fry have been created in one of the shops of Mal'me experimental fish-breeding plant. It is built on thermal springs in 42 ponds, in which water is warmed up with solar heat and the fry grow quicker than in rivers. This has reduced by 90 per cent the rearing period per year. The productivity of new basins is 100,000 valuable fish fry a year.

Geothermal fish breeding is part of the Losos (Salmon) comprehensive programme, which is carried out in the Kanchalakha peninsula on the Pacific coast of the USSR. A fish-breeding centre with a capacity of several million salmon fry is to be set up at the Paratunka hot springs in the next few years.

In the house looks so modest, more of a modest cell than a room. There the writer spent most of his days, which served as a bed. In front of a simple desk is a hard chair as well as the rest of the furniture in the study. Dostoevsky wrote at night; there are two big candles on the desk. He liked strong tea, tea from the kitchen where there was a samovar and a tea set.

Dostoevsky liked silence and quiet. That is why he always regarded strangers with attention. People felt uneasy under his quiet inquiring eyes. This is the man we see in his portrait—a thinking, distrustful, lonely, gloomy-looking person. A man who through all his life believed life to be so good and considered that it was necessary to make others believe just that.

'BALTICA' IS WAITING FOR GUESTS

The task of the "Baltika" turbo-electric ship is to bring to the Soviet Union participants in the 12th World Festival of Youth and Students. The Baltic Sea Shipping Company has drawn up the ship's schedule. It will carry festival delegations from Britain, France, and other countries.

The ship's amateur art company is now rehearsing a concert programme "Welcome to Moscow Festival", in which songs, dances and culinary experts will participate.

SOVIET STUDENTS' INVENTION COMMENTED

As students of the Leningrad Polytechnic were taking their winter exams at the cybernetics faculty, electronic analytical weighing scale they have designed and built was on display in the Soviet Cultural Centre in Leningrad. Its precision and reliability was highly commented by Indian specialists.

The instrument is one of two hundred items at an exhibition, "Scientific and Technical Creations and Innovations by Soviet College Students", orga-

nized in India by the USSR Committee for Science and Technology, said Yu. Vasil'yev, member of the Presidium of the Council of Leningrad College and University Rectors. Students of our Polytechnic presented more exhibits than anyone else. They have designed an original intercom system, as well as instruments for establishing the clarity of water and for conducting medical and biological research, etc.

As my studies progress I become more and more convinced

that this is a wonderful construction material. First of all, it is suitable for the construction of solid marine foundations from which drilling of oil and gas wells can be carried out.

A modern drilling platform contains between twenty and twenty-five tonnes of steel. Delivery of its elements to drilling sites and assembly work are highly expensive. An ice foundation is estimated to be at least fifteen times cheaper.

By tradition one candidate,

nominated by a work collective, i.e., by people who know him or her well through joint work, stands for one seat. All candidates represent a single bloc of Communists and non-Party people, more than a half of the candidates not being Party members. The fact that one seat is contested by one candidate does not at all mean that there is no selection. It does exist and is by no means formal. It is exercised at the nominating stages, i.e., when work collectives and their public organizations decide on whom they would like to see as their representative in the Soviets.

The elections were preceded by meetings of candidates with their electorate. Much was frankly said at these meetings about what had been done, about shortcomings which must be eliminated, and about plans for the future. Wishes expressed by voters to their candidates become mandates, the fulfillment of which the future deputies will have to concern themselves after the elections. These are not hollow promises traditional for many countries and which can be forgotten the day after elections. In the USSR a deputy, being elected, does not become a legislator who is independent of his electors. He will have periodically to report back to them, specifically, on how their mandates are being fulfilled.

A deputy who fails to live up

to the expectation of those who elected him may be recalled before his term ends. The Union and Republican laws on this, now in force, were promulgated in 1959. Nine thousand deputies have been recalled since then. Nine thousand per many millions is not a big percentage, but what is important is the principle: this creates an additional guarantee that the electorate's desire will be honoured during the entire term of the deputy's mandate.

The active and interested involvement of practically the entire adult population, both in the election campaign and in the voting itself, is hardly surprising. People know that the word said by the deputy today

will become dead tomorrow

that is the crux of the matter.

What mandates have the candidates who will stand for the election tomorrow received? Various. From purely local (building a new school or shop, opening an additional trolleybus route or children's playground) to those dealing with the key issues of the country's home and foreign policy. Probably all candidates without exception relate to the mandate to contribute to the consolidation of peace and international cooperation, acceleration of USSR's political and economic development, and the improvement of the defense capability.

VIEWPOINT

Elections to Soviets

Alexander GUBER

On Sunday, February 24, elections to the Supreme Soviets of the Union and Autonomous Republics and the local Soviets of People's Deputies will be held. Suffrage in our country is enjoyed today by 180-million citizens—people who have reached 18 years, regardless of sex, nationality, attitude to religion, social standing, income and educational level. They will have to elect over two million deputies, the finest representatives of all strata of the population.

I have left behind many friends in Angola: X-ray technician Eduardo, surgeon's assistant Benjamin, laboratory assistant Mauricio, nurses Anna and Laura and many others. They are nice people and many of them wished to come to the Soviet Union for studies.

Vitaly SAVILOV

A modern drilling platform contains between twenty and twenty-five tonnes of steel. Delivery of its elements to drilling sites and assembly work are highly expensive. An ice foundation is estimated to be at least fifteen times cheaper.

Construction ice is not a mere slab of ice. It can be used, for example, in making a floating island which can easily accommodate a whole settlement. This island can have a compact nuclear power station with sufficient energy to freeze more ice, to heat up water in swimming pool, and to create a "green belt" in a conservatory. It can be towed to a group of drilling sites, and, if need be, moved to another place.

BY NEW PROCESS

A test batch of valuable oil from sea-buckthorn, gathered in alpine forests has been produced in the experimental shop of the Tajik SSR State Committee of Forestry in Ordzhonikidzeabad.

The oil was produced via a process designed by scientists at Tajik University. This is the so-called "zero-impact" method during which the oil does not undergo any changes.

OF INTEREST

Four-year-old author

Nobody wondered at the appearance of eight-year-old Lyosha Pilat in form 4 "B" at School No. 132 in the city of Shar'kov (the Ukraine). He did not attend the first form at all, and in the second he was so much ahead of his classmates that by the end of the second term Lyosha's teachers advised his parents (engineers by profession) to let the boy use for the third form. In May he got excellent marks for all his tests and immediately jumped to the fourth form. His teachers believe that the next academic year will see him behind a desk in form six.

Both Lyosha's teachers and his parents do not tend to describe him as a "wonder child". Yet, at two he mastered the alphabet, and at three he could read and write. Soon he showed his parents the first story he had written.

Lyosha is a student of literature and English and solves complex mathematical problems designed by his teacher, A. Pashkevich. He is trying to take up graphics and photography. He makes figures out of plasticine and clay.

ENTERTAINMENT

Theatre, Cinema and TV Stars

VALENTIN GAFT



The question frequently discussed in interviews with actors is whether there exists a "special line" in modern theatre performance. In most cases everyone agrees that, in the absolute sense of this word, actors specializing in love, tragic or comic parts have long ceased to exist but all the same there are some bounds within which different actors may perform. However, Valentin Gaff, one of the leading theatre and film actors, fully rejects these "permissible" bounds in his creative work. He plays everything — comic and tragic parts and is good at character ones. Let's take some of them: Saitin ("The Lower Depths" by Gorky), Almaviva ("The Marriage of Figaro" by Beaumarchais), Othello ("Othello" by Shakespeare) and Louis ("The Servitude of Hypocrites" by Bulgakov) and so on. In each of these roles Gaff is amazingly recognizable, as if the roles had been written specially for him. Gaff believes that one must play himself, hence the desire to understand his stage characters through his own world, through getting to know oneself better.

Today Valentin Gaff is the leading actor at Sovremennik, one of Moscow's popular theatres. Of late he has participated in all the premieres of this theatre. Let's take some of them: Verzhin in "The Three Sisters" by Chekhov; Iwan governor in the immortal comedy "The Inspector-General" by Gogol; George in the play "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" by the American playwright Albee.

Gaff tends to pass a long and difficult road to come, finally, to "his own" theatre. Completing the studio-school at the Moscow Art Theatre he worked with different theatre companies in the city — the Moscow Art Theatre and the Drama Theatre on Malaya Bronnaya, Lenin Komsomol and Satire theatres, until he found his "home". He has been with Sovremennik since 1960.

It must be said that these "years of wanderings" were quite fruitful for the actor. By luck he met such experienced theatre actors as Yuri Zavadsky and Andrei Goncharov, Valentin Pluzhnikov and Anatoly Efros.

Coming to Goncharov, says Gaff, I felt I was a log which the director had to trim and lick into shape like Dad Carlo did to Pinocchio. With

Natalya KUROVA

To the heirs of glory

A new Mosfilm production, "Herling", devoted to 40 years of the Soviet people's Victory in the Great Patriotic War has been premiered at the Oktyabr cinema.

The film is based on the story of the same title by Anatoly Solonov, noted Soviet playwright, Editor-in-Chief of "Ogonyok" magazine. The play has been successfully produced on the stage in Moscow, Postov-on-Don, Gorky and other cities. Now one can see a film version of the play which deals with continuity of generations of people.

It portrays today's events but its characters remind one of those who heroically fought in the war, says Sofronov. The film is about the spiritual wealth inherited by younger people from their fathers and grandfathers, their allegiance to lofty ideals.

As a war veteran I hold especially dear themes on the war and memories of my comrades-in-arms. The best of their traits have been summed up in the film's main character, a retired General Nedoskin, a man of lofty morals and genuine courage.

The Central Artists Club at 10/14 Krymskaya Embankment in Moscow has opened an exhibition of paintings and graphic sheets by young Ukrainian artists. Each of the eight masters has his own highly individual approach to tradecraft. Their works represent reflections on the modern world and link

various times. They also tell about our contemporaries and problems agitating their minds today. All these artists are looking for new ways of expression and subjects, and sincerity is what they all have in common.

• Sergei Odoleik, "Remembrance".
• Vladimir Budnikov, "A House in Dzalari".



SOVIET DRAMA AT VOLKSTHEATER

Every fourth Soviet play running in the GDR is first produced by the Volkstheater Company of Rostock. Soon they will premiere in the GDR A. Misherina's "Equipe Four Frances". The company is also planning to stage V. Komratov's play, "The Third Flare", based on Vasili Bykov's story of the same title, and chief director of Moscow's Malaya Bronnaya Theatre, Yevgeny Lazarev, has been invited to take up its production. The Rostock and Mos-

cov companies have been maintaining fruitful contacts for many years now.

During the current

Volkstheater plans to present

festival of Soviet theatre.

The drama, opera and

troupe will show more

plays by Soviet authors

on their repertoire. Many

have been running for

years. Especially re-

V. Slukshin's "As They Were in the Morning", and A. Monin's "Operating on de-

signs of the Swedish business community emphasized.

A good example was the signing

of a contract with V/O Export

on supplying the Soviet

Union with products of the Swed-

ish pulp-and-paper industry.

Our association, which em-

braces practically all the leading

concerns and firms of Sweden,

Nordström said, attaches great

importance to this contract.

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